

**GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON JUVENILE CORRECTIONS REFORM**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, November 2, 2004**  
**10:00 a.m.-11:30 p.m.**  
**Arizona State Capitol, Executive Tower**  
**Grand Canyon Conference Room, Basement**  
**Phoenix, Arizona**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Helene Abrams  
Collette Brumbaugh  
Lt. Manny Cota  
Terry Hance  
Derrick Johnson  
Rob Lubitz  
David Miller  
Judge Anna Montoya-Paez  
Donna Noriega  
Judge Emmet Ronan  
Beth Rosenberg  
Leslie Schwalbe  
Cherie Townsend  
Margaret Trujillo  
Sherri Walton

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Dr. Eric Benjamin  
Senator Bill Brotherton  
Nelba Chavez  
Jan Flaaten  
Tim Hardy  
Rep. Pete Hershberger  
Paul Koehler  
Judge Willardene Lewis  
David McKell  
Gilbert Veliz

**STAFF**

Michael Branham  
Marcella Crane  
Patti Cordova  
Oly Cowles  
Grady Daniels  
John Dempsey  
Pat Erickson  
Dianne Gadow  
Sandra Gonzalez  
Lou Goodman  
Judith Lanphar  
Kellie Warren

**GUESTS**

Karen Abman  
Barry Fine  
Janet Garcia  
Dr. Louis Kraus  
Russ Van Vleet  
Lynn Wiletsky  
Nicole Yancey

**I. Welcome and Review of Minutes**

Judge Emmet Ronan, Chair of the Governor's Task Force on Juvenile Corrections Reform, called the meeting to order. Judge Ronan welcomed Mr. Russ Van Vleet and Dr. Louis Kraus, consultants for the Department of Justice (DOJ) Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act Division (CRIPA). Judge Ronan announced that Mr. Jan Flaaten will be replacing Ms. Jana Scott as a task force member.

**Motion: To approve the minutes of the June 29, 2004 meeting. Changes were made to show David Miller as present and Rob Lubitz as absent at the September 21, 2004 meeting. The minutes were then seconded and approved.**

**II. Juvenile Corrections Update**

The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) Director Michael Branham advised that the Department is continuing to fill position vacancies with qualified candidates. Mr. Branham stated that ADJC has requested an additional \$6 million added to the '06 budget to help achieve the goals set in the CRIPA Agreement.

### **III. CRIPA Monitoring Report-out**

Dr. Louis Kraus, from Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Illinois, introduced himself and gave a brief description of his work and accomplishments. Dr. Kraus will be offering technical assistance in the areas of medical and behavioral health. Mr. Van Vleet provided a summary of his initial visit to the facilities, as well as a summary of the other two consultants, Dr. Peter Leone and Lindsay Hayes. All three consultants were able to visit ADJC staff and the facilities in October, 2004. Overall, Mr. Van Vleet's assessment of ADJC's progress is good, with a few areas noted as needing improvement that include: the status of Incident Reports (IR's), staff training, the 'atmosphere' at Catalina Mountain School, teacher turnover, and structural changes to facilities to prevent suicides.

Dr. Kraus advised the Task Force members that this will be his first visit to the facilities and he will give his initial report at the end of his visit to Mr. Van Vleet and ADJC Leadership staff. Each consultant will work with Mr. Van Vleet on compiling their area of information for a draft copy to be developed and shared with Director Branham and ADJC Leadership staff. Per the CRIPA agreement, a six month report is required to the Department of Justice, written by the consultants.

Mr. Van Vleet stated that all the consultants will be visiting ADJC during the week of January 17, 2005.

### **IV. ADJC Inspections and Investigations Unit**

Director Michael Branham introduced John Dempsey, Administrator of the Inspections and Investigations (I & I) Unit. Mr. Dempsey gave an overview of I & I. Specifics mentioned:

- The Inspections Unit was created to assist in agency-wide consistency and standards compliance.
- The Investigations Unit was retooled and expanded to include:
  - A Criminal Investigations Unit
  - A Professional Standards Investigations Unit
  - A Canine Corps

The Inspections Unit is a new ADJC program that was developed and implemented in August 2004, after completion of an extensive training program by the Inspectors. Methods utilized by the unit include:

- Collaborative work teams with subject matter experts.
- One-on-one instruction on policy and procedure.
- Crime Prevention through environmental design (CPTED)

The purpose of the Investigations Unit is to ensure timely, accurate, and professional investigations, and to follow up on acts and omissions contrary to law and/or state or ADJC policies, procedures and rules.

The Criminal Investigations Unit consists of AZPOST sworn Investigators who respond to all criminal acts related to ADJC operations, and utilize best investigative practices and techniques. The unit also collaborates with prosecutors, other law enforcement agencies and the general public.

The Professional Standards Unit investigates all serious administrative matters of state or agency policies, procedures and/or practices. The unit consists of three Investigators with specialized training in administrative as well as criminal procedures.

The Canine Corps is the agency's narcotic detection canine unit. Two Youth Correctional Officers completed a nine-week certification process with their Labrador Retriever partners. They completed field training and are now assigned periodically to ADJC facilities. The K-9 responsibilities include reviewing incoming mail, visitors and staff processing at the front gate of all facilities, and special assignments for the well being of the agency or protection of the general public. At present, the canines have had "hits" on visitors at the facilities, but no illegal substances have been found. There has also been a decline in the number of visitors at the facilities.

Mr. Dempsey gave a breakdown of 2004 Inspections & Investigations cases as of October, 2004. There were a total of 350 cases under review.

- 227 cases opened criminally (includes staff misconduct that could be criminal and youth crimes).
- 123 cases opened under the Professional Standards Unit (a majority were staff misconduct allegations, however, some independent criminal investigations were conducted during a short period of time due to staff shortage).
- 31 cases were issued to the Professional Standards Unit from the Criminal Investigations unit.
- 3 cases were issued to the Criminal and Professional Standards unit simultaneously.

The number of cases in 2004 (as of October) has increased compared to previous years. In 2002 there were 99 cases and 117 cases in 2003. The rise in the number of cases being investigated is a direct result of a two-pronged approach that has been organized by Mr. Dempsey and a strong zero tolerance policy on all inappropriate behavior by staff.

If Task Force members have any questions or comments for Mr. Dempsey, he can be reached at 602-542-5490 or [jdempsey@azdjcc.gov](mailto:jdempsey@azdjcc.gov).

## **V. Broader Juvenile Justice Issues**

Judge Ronan opened up the discussion of the role the Task Force members would like to have in reshaping juvenile justice policy. Various members discussed several options as it related to Juvenile Justice Systemic Reform, Education, Substance Abuse, and Behavioral Health. Members expressed that the window of opportunity to make a significant impact on juvenile justice is at hand, as each Agency plays a significant role in making a positive impact in the lives of children and families.

Several Task Force Members asked Mr. Van Vleet how the Task Force or a subcommittee of the Task Force could help the consultants in their work and how to be part of the long-term solution so that Arizona does not find itself under a federal investigation.

**Motion: To approve the establishment of three subcommittees in the areas of Education, Mental Health, and Juvenile Justice Systemic Reform. Motion was seconded and approved. Further discussion on this will take place at a later date.**

**VI. Public Comment**

No public comment was made at this meeting.

**IX. Miscellaneous**

The next meeting will be scheduled for mid-January, 2005 when the CRIPA consultants return to Arizona.

The meeting was adjourned by Judge Emmet Ronan, Chair.

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